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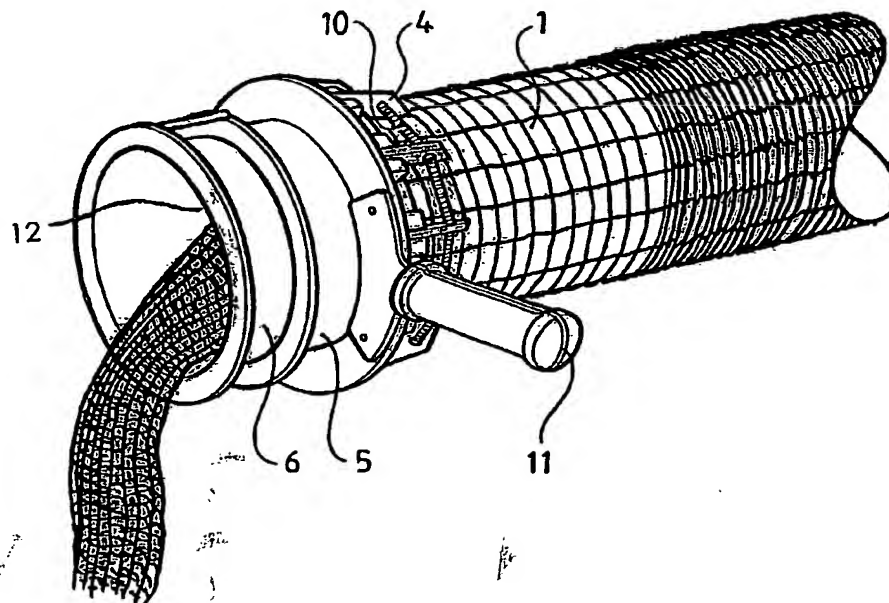
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: **HAND OPERATED SHIRRING MACHINE**



(57) Abstract: A hand-operated machine for shirring casing onto a stuffing tube (1) includes a body through which the stuffing tube (1) covered in casing may pass. The shirring machine has casing engaging means (4) that engages the casing as the machine is pushed along the stuffing tube (1) from the discharge end (12) so that the casing is drawn onto the stuffing tube. The casing engaging means (4) also disengages the casing when it is pulled in the opposite direction. The shirring machine also includes grasping means (11) to manually move it back and forth along the stuffing tube (1).

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER					
Int. Cl. 7: A22C 13/02					
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC					
B. FIELDS SEARCHED					
Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)					
Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched AU: IPC A22C 13/02					
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) DWPI: IPC A22C 13/02 and Keywords: SHIRRING					
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.			
X, Y	US 5273481 A (SULLIVAN) 28 December 1993 Column 3 line 34 to column 5 line 30, claims and figures 4 to 6	1-15			
X, Y	US 4734956 A (FREY et al) 5 April 1988 Column 5 line 4 to column 6 line 65, claims and figures 5 to 8	1-15			
X, Y	US 4550471 A (BECKMAN et al) 5 November 1985 Column 10 line 61 to column 13 line 40, claims and figures 9 to 13	1-15			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex					
<table style="width: 100%; border: none;"> <tr> <td style="width: 33%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"B" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p> </td> <td style="width: 33%; vertical-align: top;"> <p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p> </td> <td style="width: 33%;"></td> </tr> </table>			<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"B" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>	
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <p>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</p> <p>"B" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date</p> <p>"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)</p> <p>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</p> <p>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</p>	<p>"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention</p> <p>"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone</p> <p>"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art</p> <p>"&" document member of the same patent family</p>				
Date of the actual completion of the international search 8 April 2003		Date of mailing of the international search report 15 APR 2003			
Name and mailing address of the ISA/AU AUSTRALIAN PATENT OFFICE PO BOX 200, WODEN ACT 2606, AUSTRALIA E-mail address: pct@ipaaustralia.gov.au Facsimile No. (02) 6285 3929		Authorized officer LIONEL BOPAGE Telephone No : (02) 6283 2153			

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/AU03/00263

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5197914 A (POWERS) 30 March 1993 Column 3 line 24 to end of column 6, claims and figures 1 to 3	1-15
Y	EP 0155536 A (VISKASE CORPORATION) 17 May 1989 Column 3 line 41 to column 6 line 27, claims and figures 1 to 3	1-15
NOTE:	Disclosure in any one of citations 1 to 3 when combined together with the disclosure of any one of the last two citations make the application defined in the claims obvious.	

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Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/AU03/00263

This Annex lists the known "A" publication level patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned international search report. The Australian Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

Patent Document Cited in Search Report		Patent Family Member					
US	5273481	CA	2093086				
US	4734956	US	4688299				
US	4550471	BR	8202527	CA	1200420	CA	1237324
		DK	1965/82	EP	64266	ES	511839
		ES	8306568	ES	517696	ES	8403011
		ES	527830	ES	8407370	FI	821525
		JP	58011607	MX	161213	US	4467499
US	5197914	AU	25477/92	EP	620708	MX	9207238
		WO	9313669				
EP	155536	AU	39107/85	CA	1226473	ES	540631
		ES	8605948	ES	550934	ES	8700903
		FI	850740	JP	60193806	US	4590830
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